



DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I HEREBY DECLARE:

THAT my residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

THAT I believe I am the original, first, and sole inventor (if only one inventor is named below) or an original, first, and joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below or in an attached Declaration) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

Water Treatment Apparatus and Method

the specification of which (check one)

 is attached hereto.

 X was filed on December 2, 2003 as United States Application
Number or PCT International Application
Number 10/724,881 and was amended
on (if applicable).

THAT I do not know and do not believe that the same invention was ever known or used by others in the United States of America, or was patented or described in any printed publication in any country, before I (we) invented it;

THAT I do not know and do not believe that the same invention was patented or described in any printed publication in any country, or in public use or on sale in the United States of America, for more than one year prior to the filing date of this United States application;

THAT I do not know and do not believe that the same invention was first patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate that issued in any country foreign to the United States of America before the filing date of this United States application if the foreign application was filed by me (us), or by my (our) legal representatives or assigns, more than twelve months (six months for design patents) prior to the filing date of this United States application;

THAT I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claim(s), as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above;

THAT I believe that the above-identified specification contains a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise,

and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the invention, and sets forth the best mode contemplated by me of carrying out the invention; and

THAT I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

I HEREBY CLAIM foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code §119(a)-(d) or § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or §365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

| Prior Foreign Application Number | Country | Foreign Filing Date | Priority Claimed? | Certified Copy Attached? |
|----------------------------------|---------|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 2002-351751(P) | Japan | December 3, 2002 | X | Yes |
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I HEREBY CLAIM the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

| U.S. Provisional Application Number | Filing Date |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
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I HEREBY CLAIM the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s), or § 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

| U.S. Parent Application Number | PCT Parent Application Number | Parent Filing Date | Parent Patent Number |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
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I HEREBY APPOINT the registered attorneys and agents at Customer Number 22428

Customer Number: 22428

to have full power to prosecute this application and any continuations, divisions, reissues, and reexaminations thereof, to receive the patent, and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

I request that all correspondence be directed to:

William T. Ellis
FOLEY & LARDNER
Customer Number: 22428

Telephone: (202) 672-5407
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

I UNDERSTAND AND AGREE THAT the foregoing attorneys and agents appointed by me to prosecute this application do not personally represent me or my legal interests, but instead represent the interests of the legal owner(s) of the invention described in this application.

I FURTHER DECLARE THAT all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Name of first inventor | Jun HIROSE |
| Residence | Hirakata-shi, Osaka, Japan |
| Citizenship | Japanese |
| Post Office Address | c/o Sanyo Electric Co., Ltd., 5-5, Keihanhondori 2-chome, Moriguchi-shi, Osaka, Japan |
| Inventor's signature | <i>Jun Hirose</i> |
| Date | March 18, 2004 |

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| Name of second inventor | Fumitake KONDO |
| Residence | Otsu-shi, Shiga, Japan |
| Citizenship | Japanese |
| Post Office Address | c/o Sanyo Electric Co., Ltd., 5-5, Keihanhondori 2-chome, Moriguchi-shi, Osaka, Japan |
| Inventor's signature | <i>Fumitake Kondo</i> |
| Date | March 18, 2004 |
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| Name of third inventor | Naoki HIRO |
| Residence | Osaka-shi, Osaka, Japan |
| Citizenship | Japanese |
| Post Office Address | c/o Sanyo Electric Co., Ltd., 5-5, Keihanhondori 2-chome, Moriguchi-shi, Osaka, Japan |
| Inventor's signature | <i>Naoki Hiro</i> |
| Date | March 18, 2004 |
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| Name of fourth inventor | Kouichi SANO |
| Residence | Takatsuki-shi, Osaka, Japan |
| Citizenship | Japanese |
| Post Office Address | c/o School Legal Corporation, Osaka Medical College, 2-7, Daigaku-machi, Takatsuki-shi, Osaka, Japan |
| Inventor's signature | |
| Date | |
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| Name of fifth inventor | Takashi NAKANO |
| Residence | Takatsuki-shi, Osaka, Japan |
| Citizenship | Japanese |
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| Inventor's signature | |
| Date | |

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| Name of sixth inventor | Hiroshi TAKENAKA |
| Residence | Takatsuki-shi, Osaka, Japan |
| Citizenship | Japanese |
| Post Office Address | c/o School Legal Corporation, Osaka Medical College, 2-7, Daigaku-machi, Takatsuki-shi, Osaka, Japan |
| Inventor's signature | |
| Date | |

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|--------------------------|---|
| Name of seventh inventor | Yoko ANDO |
| Residence | Takatsuki-shi, Osaka, Japan |
| Citizenship | Japanese |
| Post Office Address | c/o School Legal Corporation, Osaka Medical College, 2-7, Daigaku-machi, Takatsuki-shi, Osaka, Japan |
| Inventor's signature | |
| Date | |

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| Name of eighth inventor | Toyohide KOBAYASHI |
| Residence | Takatsuki-shi, Osaka, Japan |
| Citizenship | Japanese |
| Post Office Address | c/o School Legal Corporation, Osaka Medical College, 2-7, Daigaku-machi, Takatsuki-shi, Osaka, Japan |
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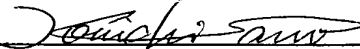
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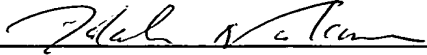
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| Name of first inventor | Jun HIROSE |
| Residence | Hirakata-shi, Osaka, Japan |
| Citizenship | Japanese |
| Post Office Address | c/o Sanyo Electric Co., Ltd., 5-5, Keihanhondori 2-chome, Moriguchi-shi, Osaka, Japan |
| Inventor's signature | |
| Date | |

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| Citizenship | Japanese |
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| Inventor's signature | |
| Date | |

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| Name of third inventor | Naoki HIRO |
| Residence | Osaka-shi, Osaka, Japan |
| Citizenship | Japanese |
| Post Office Address | c/o Sanyo Electric Co., Ltd., 5-5, Keihanhondori 2-chome, Moriguchi-shi, Osaka, Japan |
| Inventor's signature | |
| Date | |

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| Name of fourth inventor | Kouichi SANO |
| Residence | Takatsuki-shi, Osaka, Japan |
| Citizenship | Japanese |
| Post Office Address | c/o School Legal Corporation, Osaka Medical College, 2-7, Daigaku-machi, Takatsuki-shi, Osaka, Japan |
| Inventor's signature |  |
| Date | March 18, 2004 |

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|------------------------|---|
| Name of fifth inventor | Takashi NAKANO |
| Residence | Takatsuki-shi, Osaka, Japan |
| Citizenship | Japanese |
| Post Office Address | c/o School Legal Corporation, Osaka Medical College, 2-7, Daigaku-machi, Takatsuki-shi, Osaka, Japan |
| Inventor's signature |  |
| Date | March 18, 2004 |

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|------------------------|---|
| Name of sixth inventor | Hiroshi TAKENAKA |
| Residence | Takatsuki-shi, Osaka, Japan |
| Citizenship | Japanese |
| Post Office Address | c/o School Legal Corporation, Osaka Medical College, 2-7, Daigaku-machi, Takatsuki-shi, Osaka, Japan |
| Inventor's signature | <i>Hiroshi Takenaka</i> |
| Date | March 18, 2004 |

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|--------------------------|---|
| Name of seventh inventor | Yoko ANDO |
| Residence | Takatsuki-shi, Osaka, Japan |
| Citizenship | Japanese |
| Post Office Address | c/o School Legal Corporation, Osaka Medical College, 2-7, Daigaku-machi, Takatsuki-shi, Osaka, Japan |
| Inventor's signature | <i>Yoko Ando</i> |
| Date | March 18, 2004 |

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|-------------------------|---|
| Name of eighth inventor | Toyohide KOBAYASHI |
| Residence | Takatsuki-shi, Osaka, Japan |
| Citizenship | Japanese |
| Post Office Address | c/o School Legal Corporation, Osaka Medical College, 2-7, Daigaku-machi, Takatsuki-shi, Osaka, Japan |
| Inventor's signature | <i>Toyohide Kobayashi</i> |
| Date | March 18, 2004 |